



**American Recovery and Reinvestment Act
Section 1003(a) Grant Funds to Support Title I PLA Schools
January 2012**

Michigan Department of Education - FAQ

1. What is the source of the funds that are available?

Title I American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Section 1003(a) School Improvement Funds.

2. Who is eligible to receive funding?

Title I receiving Persistently Lowest Achieving (PLA) schools that did not receive a School Improvement Grant (SIG).

3. Will these dollars be available on a yearly basis?

No. This is a one-time award.

4. What amount is available?

Initially, each eligible school can apply for \$56,848. If all eligible schools do not apply, any remaining dollars will be reallocated.

5. When do the funds become available?

Funds are available now. The application is in MEGS.

6. When do the funds have to be spent?

These dollars must be obligated by September 30, 2012. They may not be carried over.

7. If a school applies for these funds, will it affect their eligibility for any other Title I Funding?

No.

8. Do these funds have to be expended on services, resources, personnel connected with the PLA school?

Yes. They must be directed at the school.

9. Do the Title I rules apply to these funds?

Yes. The supplement, not supplant rules are in force. In other words, a school district must continue to provide all non-Federal funds that would have been provided to the school in the absence of these funds.

10. How can these monies be spent?

These dollars must be used to supplement the approved reform plans already submitted to the Michigan Department of Education's School Reform Office.

11. What happens if we don't spend the funds in a timely manner?

Funding drawdowns will be monitored by MDE. Schools that have not made good progress on drawdowns by June 1st may have their funds recaptured and reallocated to other schools. MDE will contact the school district before any final decisions are made regarding funding.